

NUMBER OF CHILDREN REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURTS

2000

During the reporting period between January 1, 2000 and December 31, 2000, information regarding 80,837 children was reported by the juvenile courts to the Tennessee Juvenile Court Information System (TJCIS). This number represents a statewide increase of eleven percent (11%) or 7,801 children compared to calendar year 1999. Limitations to the data notwithstanding, this larger than normal increase in the number of children reported to TJCIS can be explained largely by improved data reporting by Davidson County Juvenile Court. Improved data collection efforts concerning dependency and neglect cases as well as special proceeding cases was also a factor.

The juvenile courts reporting the largest number of children referred and disposed were Shelby County/ Memphis, Davidson County/Nashville, Hamilton County/Chattanooga, and Knox County/Knoxville. Once again, Shelby County reported the largest number of children (16,164) and Hancock County, reporting 35 children, was the county with the smallest number of children reported to be referred to juvenile court.

Please refer to the chart on pages 8-9 for a county by county listing of the numbers of children, cases, and referrals. ***The reader should note that the TJCIS definition of case is as follows: "All referral reasons/charges reported to the court (via complaint, petition, motion, etc.) on a given day for a given child."***